

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF EMERALD ASH BORER



Infestations of the invasive pest Emerald ash borer (EAB) naturally spread one to two miles annually. However, through human movement of ash logs and firewood, EAB and other wood pests can be moved long distances to uninfested areas, killing ash trees in new locations. While EAB has spread into most of Vermont's counties, its population is low and it has infested only a very small percentage of the state's total ash trees. Attention and care in managing the movement of infested ash material will slow the spread of EAB and allow time for planning, monitoring, and research.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

It is unlawful to willfully and intentionally move material that is infested with EAB without proper treatment. Assess the condition of ash trees prior to harvest. If trees are infested with EAB, follow the recommendations below.

Before moving ash material (logs, firewood), inspect it to determine if it is visibly infested with EAB. Pay close attention if the ash is coming from an [EAB Infested Area](#).

➔ **Before moving ash trees, logs, or firewood, determine if they are visibly infested with EAB.**

## Signs of EAB Infestation



Signs of EAB infestation: (A) birds removing the outer layer of bark giving a flaking appearance - often called "blonding" and (B) "S" shaped galleries under the bark. *Photos: bugwood.org.*



## IS THE ASH MATERIAL TO BE MOVED VISIBLY INFESTED WITH EAB?

YES



**Follow these recommendations when ash logs and firewood ARE visibly infested with EAB.**

### Treatment and Processing of Visibly Infested Ash Logs and Roundwood

- **MOVING DURING EAB FLIGHT SEASON: June 1 – September 30**
  - Leave onsite or delay harvest or transport until end of EAB flight season, OR
  - If harvesting or transport **must** occur during the flight season:
    - Notify the purchaser that the logs/roundwood are visibly infested with EAB prior to shipping, AND
    - The purchaser should **immediately** process and treat infested bark by burning it in boilers onsite or grinding.
- **MOVING OUTSIDE OF EAB FLIGHT SEASON: October 1 – May 31**
  - Leave onsite, OR
  - Notify the purchaser that the logs/roundwood are visibly infested with EAB prior to shipping, AND
  - The purchaser utilizes before May 31 and treats bark by burning in boilers onsite or grinding before May 31.

### Treatment and Processing of Visibly Infested Ash Firewood

- Remove ash firewood from shipments, OR
- Season ash firewood at its place of origin for at least 24 months, OR
- Deliver ash firewood after October 1 and burn by May 31, OR
- Heat-treat ash firewood to [standard](#).

### Treatment and Processing of Visibly Infested Ash Material from Tree Care and Clearing

- Leave onsite, OR
- Follow the treatment and processing of ash logs and roundwood detailed above, OR
- Chip and mulch the material as small as possible.

NO



**Follow these recommendations when ash logs and firewood ARE NOT visibly infested with EAB.**

Even though the ash material is not visibly infested with EAB, some low-level infestations can go unnoticed. You can still take proactive steps to help slow the spread, especially with ash material originating from the [EAB Infested Area](#). When feasible, follow the treatment and processing recommendations above for greater protection of Vermont's trees and forests.

Visit [VTinvasives.org](https://VTinvasives.org) for more information

For additional information or questions, contact (802) 828-1531.